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# DESIGN FOR A RECREATION PAVILION IN A CITY PARK

BY

AUSTIN BOND

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THESIS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN ARCHITECTURE

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

PRESENTED JUNE 1903



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June 1, 1903

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE THESIS PREPARED UNDER MY SUPERVISION BY

AUSTIN BOND, under the direction of Professor Temple,

ENTITLED DESIGN FOR A RECREATION PAVILION IN A CITY PARK

IS APPROVED BY ME AS FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

OF Bachelor of Science in Architecture.

*W. Clifford Rinker*

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF Architecture.

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The strenuous mental life within doors in all our large cities makes it imperative that much space and proper conveniences be supplied for out of door exercise.

The rapidly increasing number of college men in our cities, who, while in college, have become accustomed to athletic sports, makes the demand more urgent for some means for them to counteract the effects of this sudden change to a sedentary life.

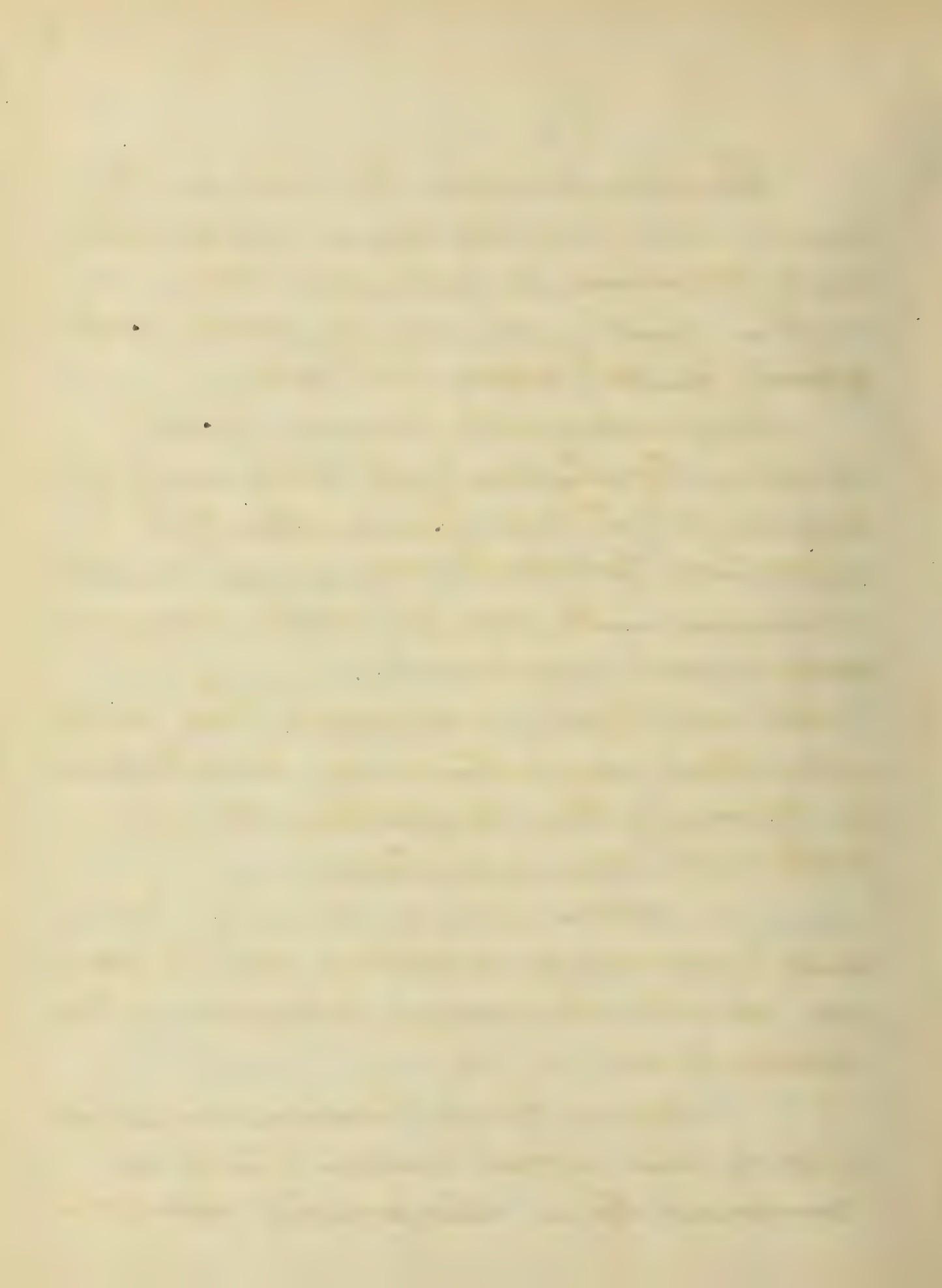
Most of our large cities have made much progress in supplying numerous and ample spaces for out of door recreation; but little effort has been directed toward establishing, in connection therewith, suitable indoor accessories for various athletic sports.



The object of this design is to provide the commodities space and sheltered areas demanded in connection with various field and water sports and out door entertainments.

This idea, developed fully, demands that space be arranged where large crowds can conveniently assemble to listen to musical concerts or speaking; some sheltered and some open space where refreshments may be served; locker room, where those who engage in exercise may deposit unnecessary or changes of clothing; good bathing accommodations; arrangement for some indoor games and an ample supply room at which tennis, golf, base ball and other sporting goods may be rented or purchased.

The nearby lake should have a spacious boat landing to accommodate boating interests.



The site chosen for this contemplated structure is in a large city park bordering a natural lake.

The land is generally level and about ten feet above the lake.

The waterfront has a boat-landing twenty-four feet wide and four hundred feet long. The center of this elevation projects over three arched recesses, into which boats may be drawn and anchored.

This sheltered anchorage lies along a vaulted way extending longitudinally through the projecting central portion of the elevation.

At either side of this center and enclosing drinking fountains, are double stairways leading to the upper level.

About three hundred and forty feet of this upper water front is crowned by a vine covered pergola



which furnishes shade and seating room in which to enjoy the breeze and view of the lake.

Between this pergola and the main building is a large paved space where people may assemble to listen to music or speaking from the band stand shown at the center of the rear elevation of the building.

A curved colonnade joins the rear of the two wings of the building with the band stand.

The main pavilion consists of a central mass, two links and two appendages with wings in the rear, all of which are two stories in height. Two towers stand at the rear of the center to accent the central mass and also to afford stair and elevator space and observation points above.



On the park front of the building are three entrances: one large central entrance and one in each appendage. Side entrances are also provided in these latter.

The central doorway leads into a large room where sporting goods are kept for sale or rent.

In the two wings adjacent, of which the one on the right has been arranged for men and that on the left for youths, which arrangement applies to both stories - are double stairways leading to the rooms above, and also space for lockers.

These rooms also have entrances at the rear.

The rooms in the two appendages are entrance halls with space for additional lockers.

The two wings contain swimming tanks each fifteen by fifty feet in size,



and shower baths and toilets.

The room immediately in the rear of the center is for kitchen purposes; entrances to this room are through the bases of the towers.

The central portion of the second floor is a large dining and lunch room. Its service is connected with the kitchen below by means of two dumb waiters; the alcove at the rear of the room is a space used for serving.

Two doorways from the dining room and also doorways from the stair halls adjacent, communicate, through the tower, to a music and instrument room at the rear of the dining room and between the two towers. Beyond this instrument room and divided from it by a wall of semi-elliptical form in plan, is a projecting platform



of about fifteen hundred square feet area for the accommodation of the band.

The back wall rises and curves outward, meeting the plane of the building thus serving as an reflector for the sound. This space may also be utilized for public speaking.

From the tower rooms on this floor are stairways and elevators leading to the roof garden above which serves as an observation and fresh air retreat.

This roof garden is bordered by a vine covered pergola.

Another floor above in each tower affords additional fresh air space.

On the appendages of the building is space for reading and games. In each wing are three bowling alleys; those on the men's side being regulation size and



those on the youth's side of about  
two-thirds standard length.

The Pavilion will be under the control of the Park Commissioners and operated to meet the needs of the public.

There will be small fees for rental of goods, for baths and locker accommodations, but the further uses of the building will be free.

Band Concerts will be provided for a frequent intervals during the summer season.

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